

REMARKS

Applicant appreciates the Examiner's thorough consideration provided the present application. Claims 1-15 are now present in the application. The specification, drawings, and claims 1-3, 9 and 11 have been amended. Claim 1 is independent. Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner has indicated that claims 1-15 are allowed. Applicant greatly appreciates the indication of allowable subject matter by the Examiner.

Drawings Objections

The drawings have been objected to under 37 C.F.R. § 1.84(p)(5) and because FIG. 6 does not include reference number. Applicant has submitted two (2) sheets of corrected formal drawings and amended the specification to address the Examiner's requested changes. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that these objections have been obviated and/or rendered moot. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the Examiner's drawings objections are respectfully requested.

Claim Objections

Claims 1-3, 9 and 11-13 have been objected to due to the presence of minor informalities. In view of the foregoing amendments, in which the Examiner's helpful suggestions have been followed, it is respectfully submitted that these objections have been addressed. Reconsideration and withdrawal of these objections are respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

Since the remaining patents cited by the Examiner have not been utilized to reject the claims, but merely to show the state of the prior art, no further comments are necessary with respect thereto.

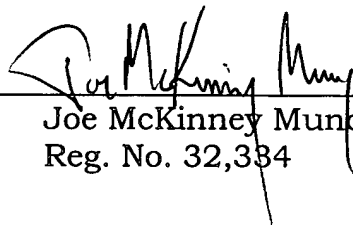
It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the Office Action, and that as such, the Examiner is respectfully requested to send the application to Issue.

In the event there are any matters remaining in this application, the Examiner is invited to contact Joe McKinney Muncy, Registration No. 32,334 at (703) 205-8000 in the Washington, D.C. area.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

Attached hereto are three (3) sheets of corrected formal drawings that comply with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.84. The corrected formal drawings incorporate the following drawing changes:

In FIG. 1, reference numbers 23, 25, 27 and 29 have been removed, and reference numeral 21 has been added; and

In FIG. 6: reference numbers 601 and 603 have been added.

It is respectfully requested that the corrected formal drawings be approved and made a part of the record of the above-identified application.